

# Developing the Proxy Consent Protocol in the Philippines



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COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES



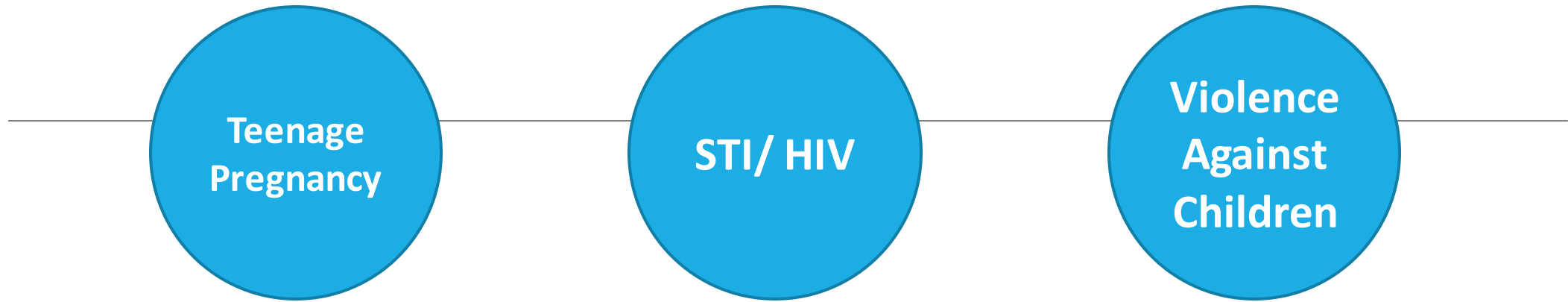
The **Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC)** is the focal government inter-agency coordinating body of the Philippine government to monitor the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Committee on Children and HIV/AIDS under the Council for the Welfare of Children Board has been revitalized primarily to respond to the issues and concerns on children and HIV.

# CWC Board



# Child Protection x SRH



- ❖ Issues that confront children and young people
  - High teenage pregnancy rate
  - Increasing rate of new HIV infection
  - High over-all prevalence of violence against children (NBS-VAC 2016)
- ❖ Enactment of laws (HIV and RPRH) which served as policy barriers for minors to access life-saving services



## *Proxy Consent*

refers to the process by which people with the legal right to consent to medical treatment for themselves or for a minor or a ward delegate that right to another person.



# Story of Maria



Children and young people are not getting tested for HIV.

	15-17	18-20	21-24	25 and older
Cumulative estimate of HIV infection by December 2016	1 976	6 157	15 791	37 416
Actual ever diagnosed with HIV	158	2 198	8 364	28 717
% diagnosed of the estimated infection	8%	36%	53%	77%

Source: 2016 AIDS Epidemic Model (AEM), November 2016  
HIV/AIDS & ART Registry of the Philippines (HARP), December 2016



**Review frameworks, policies/ laws in relation to adolescent access to services**



**Documentation of service provision to adolescents in demo sites; Consultation with the regional offices of the Department of Health and Implementing Partners**



**Defining of conditions and development of algorithms and tools; working with “champions”**



**Consultation to validate conditions with national government agencies, local government units and implementing partners**



**Pre-testing and Capacity building of the health care providers and social workers in demo sites on the algorithms and protocols; refinement and process documentation**



**Adoption of the Protocol on the Provision of Proxy Consent for HIV Testing Services of Children Vulnerable to and at Risk of HIV by the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) Board and the Philippine National AIDS Council (PNAC).**



# Meaningful engagement of children and young people



In keeping with the principle of meaningful and ethical child and youth participation, they have been consulted in the development of the protocol on proxy consent.

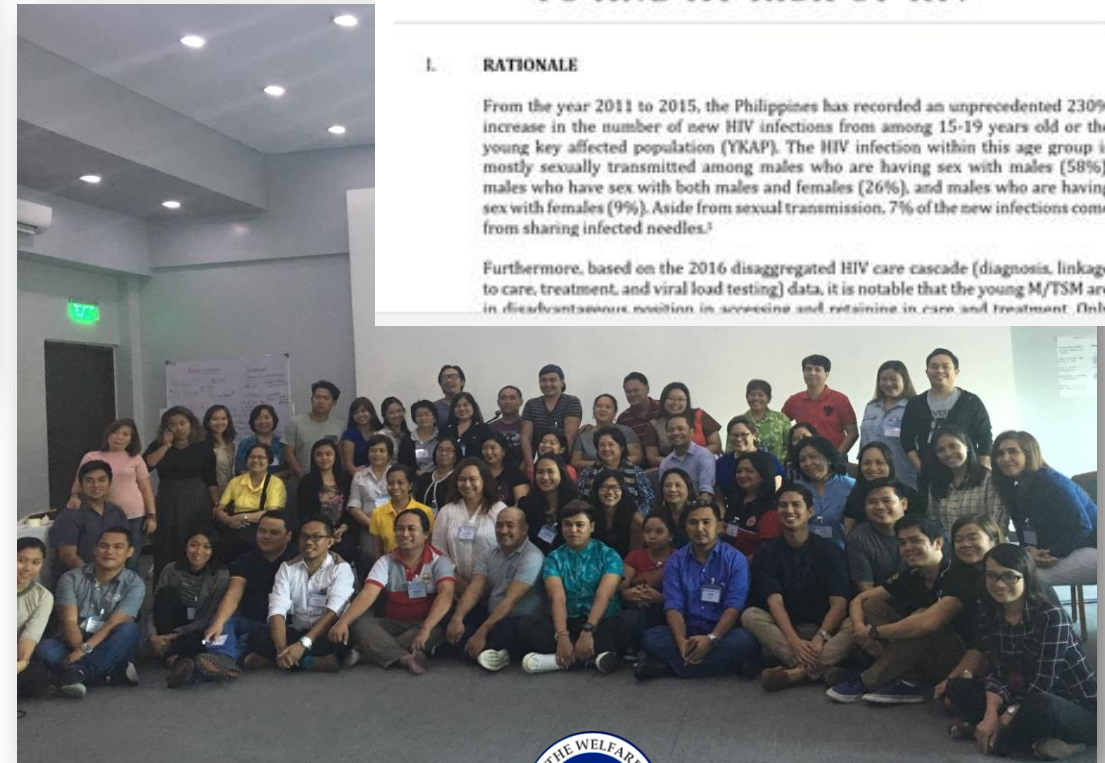
BASED ON THE MEETING (17 APRIL 2016)

## PROTOCOL ON THE PROVISION OF PROXY CONSENT FOR HIV TESTING SERVICES OF CHILDREN VULNERABLE TO AND AT RISK OF HIV

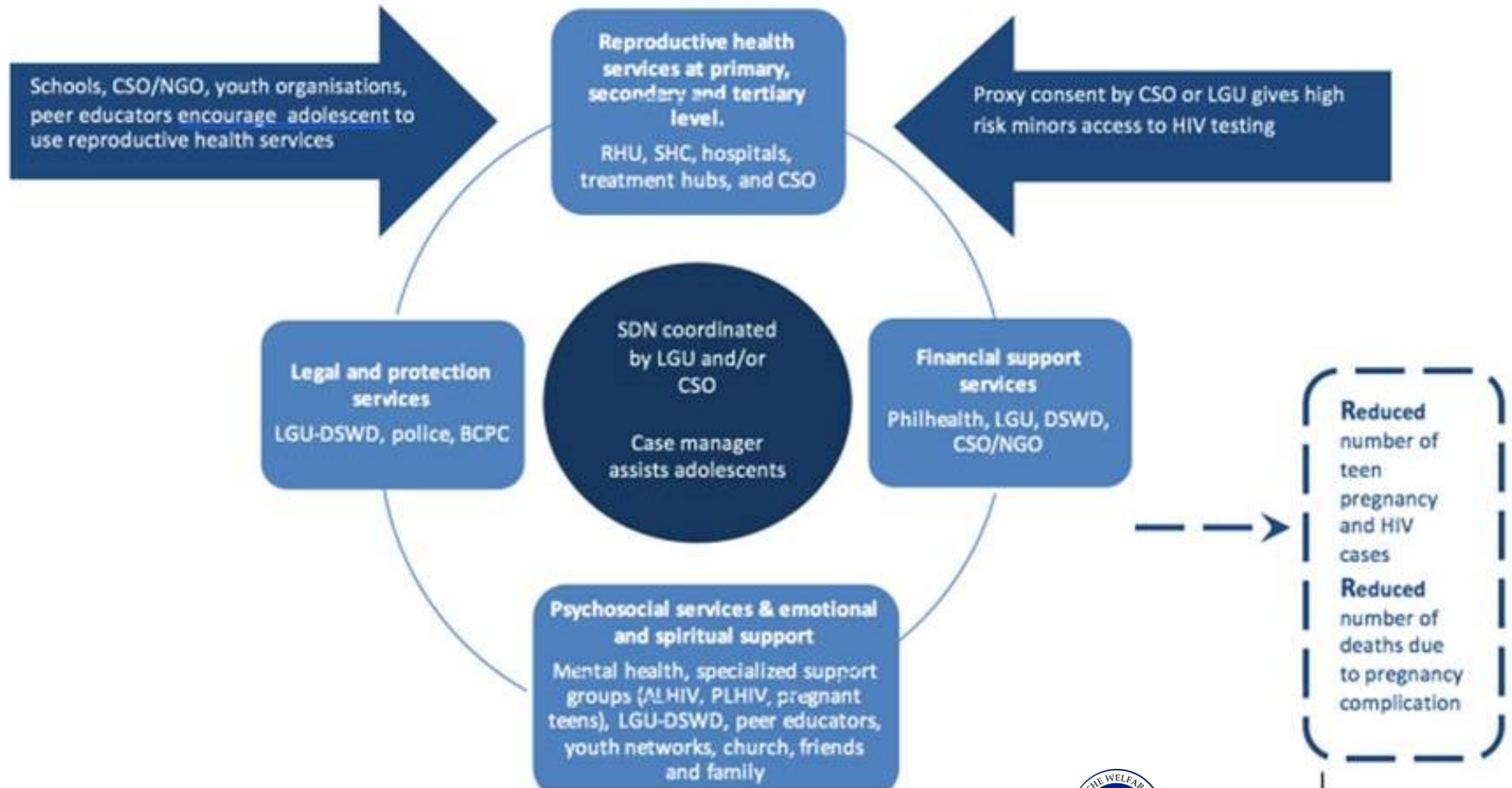
### I. RATIONALE

From the year 2011 to 2015, the Philippines has recorded an unprecedented 230% increase in the number of new HIV infections from among 15-19 years old or the young key affected population (YKAP). The HIV infection within this age group is mostly sexually transmitted among males who are having sex with males (58%), males who have sex with both males and females (26%), and males who are having sex with females (9%). Aside from sexual transmission, 7% of the new infections come from sharing infected needles.<sup>3</sup>

Furthermore, based on the 2016 disaggregated HIV care cascade (diagnosis, linkage to care, treatment, and viral load testing) data, it is notable that the young M/TSM are in disadvantageous position in accessing and retaining in care and treatment. Only



# INTEGRATED SRH/HIV SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL

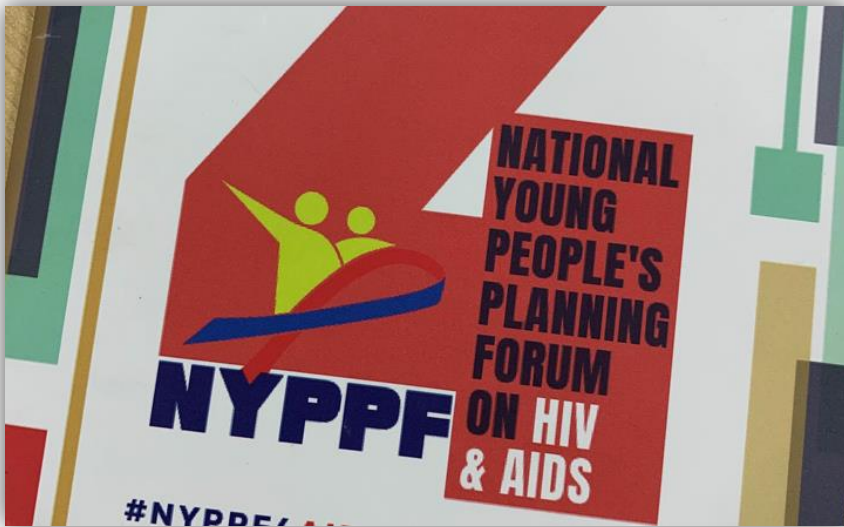






# Ways forward

- ❖ To ensure the institutionalization of the Protocol, the CWC together with its Committee on Children and HIV/AIDS will advocate for the inclusion of the Protocol in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the newly enacted law of the Philippines on HIV/AIDS.
- ❖ Continuously monitor the implementation of the proxy consent protocol and track the progress of trainings for proxy consent among service providers.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

## Committee on Children and HIV/AIDS Members and Partners

### NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Department of Education  
Department of the Interior and Local Government  
Department of Health  
Department of Justice  
Department of Social Welfare and Development  
Commission on Human Rights  
National Economic and Development Authority  
Philippine Information Agency  
League of Cities of the Philippines Secretariat  
League of Municipalities of the Philippines Secretariat  
League of Provinces of the Philippines Secretariat  
National Youth Commission  
Philippine National Aids Council Secretariat  
Council for the Welfare of Children

### CSO's/ NGO's/ DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Action for Health Initiatives, Inc.  
Association of Positive Women Advocates, Inc.  
AIDS Society of the Philippines  
Save the Children Philippines  
Community and Family Services International  
Positive Action Foundation Philippines, Inc.  
Pinoy Plus Advocacy Pilipinas, Inc.  
UNICEF Philippines  
Precious Jewels Ministry, Inc.

It's time to **#EndAdolescentAIDS**.

We recognize contributions of the following:

Brokenshire Women Center (BCW) and City Government of Davao

CebuPlus Advocacy Inc. (CPAI) and Cebu City Government of Cebu

Community and Family Services International (CFSI) and City Government of Pasay

Family Planning Organization of the Philippines (FPOP Iloilo), and City Government of Iloilo

Human Development and Empowerment Services (HDES) and City Government of Zamboanga

To all social workers and health care providers trained on the provision of proxy consent and case management

Consultants and champions from the Government, CSOs, adolescents and youth networks

